



## COASTAL NEIGHBORS NETWORK

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### Village Matters

#### **Our new Executive Director**

First, we hope you will join us in welcoming Andy Pollock as our first Executive Director. Andy's start date is June 15 and the Board will support him as he works to recruit members and volunteers. Many of you may know him as the Silverbrook Farm owner/farmer – and the most enthusiastic vegetable salesman at the Padanaram Farmer's Market. He grew up on the farm and actively farmed it from 2000 – 2016. Prior to that Andy ran a medical billing company in New Bedford, and most recently he has been employed as a Certified Nursing Assistant with Master Peace, a private agency in Mattapoisett. Besides his skills in finance, sales, and working with the elderly, we know Andy to be smart, calm and generous of spirit. He will be a great asset to CNN as we prepare to launch this summer.

## **Thank you Founding Sponsors**

Second, we have a total of 47 [Founding Sponsors](#) to whom we will be forever grateful. They have given us a solid foundation upon which to build our organization. Thank you all for your generosity, for sharing our vision, and for believing in our mission.

## **UMass Partnership**

We partnered with UMass Dartmouth School of Nursing to submit a Letter of Inquiry to the Kendal Charitable Funds for a project to reduce isolation in the elderly population. In mid-June we will find out whether we will be invited to submit a full proposal. Even if we don't get that invitation, we will continue to work with UMass Nursing students to enrich the lives of our members, while giving the students community interviewing and teaching experience. A definite Win-Win!

## **"Soft" Opening**

We are planning a "soft" opening for July 15. At this time we will accept 25 "early adopters" as new members. That group will work with our Executive Director and the Board to make sure our systems are operating efficiently, as well as help us to further refine the programs and activities to meet the needs of our members. These folks will get two extra months added on to their annual membership dues, so you might want to consider signing on early! Our [Membership Application](#) is now online!

## **Committee Highlights**

Our Volunteer Committee put together several meetings to recruit members and volunteers. They have also scheduled a volunteer training for June 26. If you are interested in this, please let us know either by [registering at our website](#) or filling in our [Volunteer Application](#) online. You can look for other committee activity by checking on the [calendar](#) on our website.

Fundraising – We have raised nearly \$69,000 of the \$75,000 goal we set to create financial stability in advance of opening. We hope you will help us meet that goal with a [donation](#) of any amount. It really does take a village to start a village and by helping us you are making a strong statement of support for the successful creation of a wonderful new resource in our town.

Social/Cultural Activities – We are planning a Sunday, September 17 party to celebrate our official opening. Members, volunteers and friends will gather from 5 – 7 PM on the outdoor pavilion at the Dartmouth YMCA. If you would like to help us create a meaningful opening event, please email [Kate Fentress](#).

## **Rescheduled Atul Gawande Event**

We spent considerable time arranging a live streaming of Atul Gawande in February only to be forced to cancel because of bad weather in Boston. The event will now take place Monday, September 25 at 5 PM. We have not secured a location yet, but will let you know as soon as we do. Dr. Gawande will be speaking as part of the Beacon Hill Village 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration.

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Please feel free to forward this newsletter to friends who might be interested in our services. We are committed to supporting people who want to stay at home, stay safe and stay engaged in the life of our lovely community.

Your friendly CNN Board,

Kate Fentress, Chair  
Richard Murdock, Vice-Chair  
Nancy Kurtz, Secretary/Treasurer

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Gretchen Graef  
Margot Hand  
Margaret Jones

Steve Kiechel  
Lisa Mellgard  
Janet Sherwood

## Interesting Reading

**10 Ways to Prepare Your Home for Aging in Place**  
[Washington Post May, 2017](#)

**Can You Afford to Age in Place?**  
[AARP February, 2017](#)

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*The Mission of Coastal Neighbors Network is to enable Dartmouth residents 50 and over to remain at home and to stay connected through a range of services provided by volunteers and approved vendors. We are a non-profit membership organization dedicated to the concept of Aging in Place.*

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